



Department of Defense

DIRECTIVE

NUMBER 5100.01

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Incorporating Change 1, September 17, 2020

CMO

SUBJECT: Functions of the Department of Defense and Its Major Components

References: See Enclosure 1

1. PURPOSE. This Directive:

- a. Reissues DoD Directive (DoDD) 5100.1 (Reference (a)).
- b. Establishes the functions of the Department of Defense and its major Components, supporting the core mission areas of the Armed Forces, which are broad DoD military operations and activities required to achieve the strategic objectives of the National Security Strategy, National Defense Strategy, and National Military Strategy (References (b), (c), and (d)), in accordance with title 10, United States Code (U.S.C.) (Reference (e)).

2. APPLICABILITY. This Directive applies to OSD, the Military Departments, the Office of the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the Joint Staff, the Combatant Commands, the Office of the Inspector General of the Department of Defense (IG DoD), the Defense Agencies, the DoD Field Activities, and all other organizational entities within the Department of Defense (hereafter referred to collectively as the “DoD Components”).

3. FUNCTIONS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE. As prescribed by higher authority, the Department of Defense shall maintain and use armed forces to:

- a. Support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic.
- b. Ensure, by timely and effective military action, the security of the United States, its possessions, and areas vital to its interest.
- c. Uphold and advance the national policies and interests of the United States.

4. ORGANIZATIONAL RELATIONSHIPS IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

- a. All functions in the Department of Defense are performed under the authority, direction, and control of the Secretary of Defense.
- b. The Department of Defense is composed of OSD, the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the Joint Staff, the Office of the IG DoD, the Combatant Commands, the Military Departments, the Defense Agencies, the DoD Field Activities, and such other offices, agencies, activities, organizations, and commands established or designated by law, or by the President or by the Secretary of Defense, in accordance with sections 111, 113, and 192 of Reference (e). The functions of the heads of these offices shall be as assigned by the Secretary of Defense in accordance with existing law.
 - (1) In providing immediate staff assistance and advice to the Secretary of Defense, the OSD and the Joint Chiefs of Staff, though separately identified and organized, shall function in full coordination and cooperation.
 - (a) OSD is the principal staff element of the Secretary of Defense in the exercise of policy development, planning, resource management, fiscal and program evaluation and oversight, and interface and exchange with other U.S. Government (USG) departments and agencies, foreign governments, and international organizations, through formal and informal processes. OSD also performs oversight and management of the Defense Agencies and DoD Field Activities.
 - (b) The Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and other members of the Joint Chiefs of Staff are responsible to the President and the Secretary of Defense for the functions assigned to them. To the extent it does not impair independence in the performance of their duties as members of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, members of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, except the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, shall inform the Secretary of their respective Military Department regarding military advice rendered as members of the Joint Chiefs of Staff on matters affecting the Military Departments.
 - (2) The Office of the IG DoD is an independent and objective unit within the Department of Defense that conducts and supervises audits and investigations relating to the programs and operations of the Department of Defense, pursuant to the responsibilities specified in title 5, U.S.C. Appendix and DoDD 5106.01 (References (f) and (g)).
 - (3) The Commanders of the Combatant Commands are responsible to the President and the Secretary of Defense for accomplishing the military missions assigned to them and shall exercise command authority over assigned forces as directed by the Secretary of Defense, pursuant to section 164 of Reference (e). The operational chain of command runs from the President to the Secretary of Defense to the Commanders of the Combatant Commands. The Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff functions within the chain of command by transmitting to the Commanders of the Combatant Commands the orders of the President or the Secretary of Defense.

- (a) Orders to such Commanders shall be issued by the President, the Secretary of Defense, or by the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff with the authority and direction of the President or the Secretary of Defense.
- (b) Communications from the President or the Secretary of Defense to the Commanders of the Combatant Commands shall be transmitted through the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, unless otherwise directed. Communications from the Commanders of the Combatant Commands to the President or the Secretary of Defense shall be transmitted through the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, unless otherwise directed.
- (c) Communications addressed to the Commanders of the Combatant Commands by other authority normally shall be coordinated with the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Information copies of all communications in matters of joint interest among Washington-level offices, agencies, activities, and commands and the Combatant Commands shall be provided to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.
- (d) Subject to the authority, direction, and control of the Secretary of Defense, the Chairman acts as the spokesperson for the Commanders of the Combatant Commands, especially on the operational requirements of their commands, and shall be responsible for overseeing the activities of the Combatant Commands. The President and the Secretary of Defense may assign other duties to the Chairman to assist the President and the Secretary of Defense in performing their command functions.
- (e) The U.S. Special Operations Command (USSOCOM) and the U.S. Cyber Command (USCYBERCOM) are Combatant Commands with unique functions, responsibilities, and authorities as assigned in sections 167 and 167b of Reference (e), respectively. Each command's unique functions, responsibilities, and authorities are similar to a number of authorities exercised by the Military Departments and Defense Agencies and include programming, budgeting, acquisition, training, organizing, equipping, and providing forces, and developing strategy, doctrine, tactics, and procedures.

(4) Each Military Department (the Department of the Navy includes the U.S. Navy, the U.S. Marine Corps, and the U.S. Coast Guard, when transferred in accordance with sections 2, 3, and 145 of title 14, U.S.C. (Reference (h)), and the Department of the Air Force includes the U.S. Air Force and U.S. Space Force) shall be separately organized under its own Secretary and shall function under the authority, direction, and control of the Secretary of Defense. Orders to the Military Departments shall be issued through the Secretaries of these Departments by the Secretary of Defense, or under authority specifically delegated in writing by the Secretary of Defense, or as provided by law.

- (a) The Secretary of each Military Department, and the civilian employees and Military Service members under the jurisdiction of the Military Department Secretary, shall cooperate fully with OSD to achieve efficient administration of the Department of Defense and to exercise the authority, direction, and control of the Secretary of Defense effectively, efficiently, and economically.

(b) The Secretary of Defense shall keep the Secretaries of the Military Departments informed with respect to military operations and activities of the Department of Defense that directly affect their respective responsibilities.

(c) The National Guard Bureau (NGB) is a joint activity of the Department of Defense. The Chief, NGB is a member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and principal advisor to the Secretary of Defense, through the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, on matters involving non-federalized National Guard forces, and other matters as determined by the Secretary of Defense. For NGB matters pertaining to the responsibilities of the Departments of the Army and Air Force in law or DoD policy, the Secretary of Defense normally exercises authority, direction, and control over the NGB through the Secretaries of the Army and the Air Force. The NGB is the focal point at the strategic level for National Guard matters that are not under the authority, direction, and control of the Secretaries of the Army or Air Force, including joint, interagency, and intergovernmental matters where the NGB acts through other DoD officials as specified in DoDD 5105.77 (Reference (i)).

(5) The Defense Agencies and DoD Field Activities are organized to perform selected consolidated support and service functions under the authority, direction, and control of the Secretary of Defense.

5. **FUNCTIONS OF THE DoD COMPONENTS.** The functions of the major components of the Department of Defense are described in Enclosures 2 through 8.

6. **RELEASABILITY.** **Cleared for public release.** This Directive is on the Directives Division Website at <https://www.esd.whs.mil/DD/>.

7. **SUMMARY OF CHANGE** 1. The changes to this issuance are administrative and:

a. Update references and organizational symbols to reflect the reorganization of:

(1) The Office of the Chief Management Officer of the Department of Defense, in accordance with the July 11, 2014 Deputy Secretary of Defense Memorandum (Reference (be)), section 132a of Reference (e), and February 1, 2018 Secretary of Defense Memorandum (Reference (bf)), including merger of:

(a) The Office of the Director of Administration and Management.

(b) The Office of the Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Intelligence Oversight.

(2) The Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics into the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering and

ENCLOSURE 7

FUNCTIONS OF THE DEFENSE AGENCIES

1. Defense Agencies are established as DoD Components by law, the President, or the Secretary of Defense to provide for the performance, on a DoD-wide basis, of a supply or service activity that is common to more than one Military Department when it is determined to be more effective, economical, or efficient to do so, pursuant to sections 101, 191(a), and 192 of Reference (e), or when a responsibility or function is more appropriately assigned to a Defense Agency. Pursuant to section 191(b) of Reference (e), such organizations are designated as Defense Agencies.
 - a. Each Defense Agency operates under the authority, direction, and control of the Secretary of Defense, through an OSD PSA, or other designated official, pursuant to section 192 of Reference (e).
 - b. Officials assigned such a responsibility with respect to a Defense Agency advise the Secretary of Defense on the extent to which the program recommendations and budget proposals of such agency conform with the requirements of the Military Departments and of the Combatant Commands. The USD(I&S) advises the Secretary of Defense on National Intelligence Program regarding funding affecting Defense Intelligence programs.
 - c. The Secretary or Deputy Secretary of Defense issues a chartering DoD Directive for each Defense Agency to prescribe its mission, organization and management, responsibilities and functions, relationships, and delegated authorities.
 - d. The current Defense Agencies in alphabetical order are:
 - (1) Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA). See DoDD 5134.10 (Reference (ac)).
 - (2) Defense Commissary Agency (DeCA). See DoDD 5105.55 (Reference (ae)).
 - (3) Defense Contract Audit Agency (DCAA). See DoDD 5105.36 (Reference (af)).
 - (4) Defense Contract Management Agency (DCMA). See DoDD 5105.64 (Reference (ag)).
 - (5) Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS). See DoDD 5118.05 (Reference (ah)).
 - (6) Defense Health Agency (DHA). See DoDD 5136.13 (Reference (bc))
 - (7) Defense Information Systems Agency (DISA). See DoDD 5105.19 (Reference (ai)).

- (8) Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA). See DoDD 5105.21 (Reference (aj)).
- (9) Defense Legal Services Agency (DLSA). See DoDD 5145.04 (Reference (ak)).
- (10) Defense Logistics Agency (DLA). See DoDD 5105.22 (Reference (al)).
- (11) Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency. See DoDD 5110.10 (Reference (av)).
- (12) Defense Security Cooperation Agency (DSCA). See DoDD 5105.65 (Reference (am)).
- (13) Defense Counterintelligence and Security Agency (DCSA). See DoDD 5105.42 and June 20, 2019 Secretary of Defense Memorandum (References (an) and (bj)).
- (14) Defense Threat Reduction Agency (DTRA). See DoDD 5105.62 (Reference (ao)).
- (15) Missile Defense Agency (MDA). See DoDD 5134.9 (Reference (ap)).
- (16) National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA). See DoDD 5105.60 (Reference (aq)).
- (17) National Reconnaissance Office (NRO). See DoDD 5105.23 (Reference (ar)).
- (18) National Security Agency/Central Security Service (NSA/CSS). See DoDD 5100.20 (Reference (as)).
- (19) Pentagon Force Protection Agency (PFPA). See DoDD 5105.68 (Reference (at)).
- (20) Space Development Agency (SDA). See the March 12, 2019 Acting Secretary of Defense Memorandum (Reference (bk)).

2. The Defense Agencies assigned combat support or combat service support functions are designated as CSAs, pursuant to section 193 of Reference (e). Section 193 of Reference (e) defines the CSAs as DISA, DIA, DLA, NGA, and Defense Agencies designated as a CSA by the Secretary of Defense, which are DCMA, DHA, DTRA, and NSA/CSS. Reference (aa) further establishes DoD CSA policy and responsibilities.

- a. CSAs fulfill combat support or combat service support functions for joint operating forces across the range of military operations, and in support of the Commanders of the Combatant Commands executing military operations. CSAs perform support functions or provide supporting operational capabilities, pursuant to their establishing Directives and pertinent DoD planning guidance.
- b. The combat support mission of a CSA is that portion of its mission involving support for operating forces engaged in planning for, or conducting, military operations, including support during conflict or in the conduct of other military activities related to countering threats to U.S.

national security. This mission is focused on providing support to echelons at the Combatant Command level and below and may not encompass the full scope of the CSA's mission.

c. The relationship between a CSA and a Combatant Command is support, with the CSA typically operating in a supporting-to-supported relationship relative to the Commanders of the Combatant Commands. The Director of a CSA exercises the authority and bears responsibilities equivalent to those of a supporting commander in accordance with Reference (aa).

ENCLOSURE 8

FUNCTIONS OF THE DoD FIELD ACTIVITIES

DoD Field Activities are established as DoD Components by law, the President, or the Secretary of Defense to provide for the performance, on a DoD-wide basis, of a supply or service activity that is common to more than one Military Department when it is determined to be more effective, economical, or efficient to do so, pursuant to sections 101, 191(a), and 192 of Reference (e). Pursuant to section 191(b) of Reference (e), such organizations are designated as DoD Field Activities.

- a. Each DoD Field Activity operates under the authority, direction, and control of the Secretary of Defense, through an OSD PSA, or other designated official, pursuant to section 192 of Reference (e).
- b. Officials assigned such a responsibility with respect to a DoD Field Activity advise the Secretary of Defense on the extent to which the program recommendations and budget proposals of such activity conform with the requirements of the Military Departments and of the Combatant Commands.
- c. The Secretary or Deputy Secretary of Defense issues a chartering DoD Directive for each DoD Field Activity to prescribe its mission, organization and management, responsibilities and functions, relationships, and delegated authorities.
- d. The current DoD Field Activities in alphabetical order are:
 - (1) Defense Media Activity (DMA). See DoDD 5105.74 (Reference (au)).
 - (2) Defense Technical Information Center (DTIC). See DoDD 5105.73 (Reference (aw)).
 - (3) Defense Technology Security Administration (DTSA). See DoDD 5105.72 (Reference (ax)).
 - (4) Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA). See DoDD 1342.20 (Reference (ay)).
 - (5) Department of Defense Human Resources Activity (DoDHRA). See DoDD 5100.87 (Reference (az)).
 - (6) Department of Defense Test Resource Management Center (TRMC). See DoDD 5105.71 (Reference (ba)).
 - (7) Office of Economic Adjustment (OEA). See DoDD 3030.01 (Reference (bb)).

(8) Washington Headquarters Services (WHS). See DoDD 5110.4 (Reference (bd)).

GLOSSARY

ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

CAO	civil affairs operations
CMO	Chief Management Officer of the Department of Defense
CSA	Combat Support Agency
DCMA	Defense Contract Management Agency
DHA	Defense Health Agency
DIA	Defense Intelligence Agency
DISA	Defense Information Systems Agency
DLA	Defense Logistics Agency
DoDD	DoD Directive
DTRA	Defense Threat Reduction Agency
GC DoD	General Counsel of the Department of Defense
HSC	Homeland Security Council
IG DoD	Inspector General of the Department of Defense
MISO	military information support operations
NDAA	National Defense Authorization Act
NGA	National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency
NGB	National Guard Bureau
NSA/CSS	National Security Agency/Central Security Service
NSC	National Security Council
PCA	Principal Cyber Advisor
POW/MIA	Prisoner of War/Missing in Action
PSA	Principal Staff Assistant
SFA	security force assistance
SOF	Special Operations Forces
U.S.C.	United States Code
USCYBERCO	U.S. Cyber Command
USD(I&S)	Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence and Security
USG	U.S. Government
USSOCOM	U.S Special Operations Command